

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

**March 21, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ben Babin, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, Burrell Carter, Anthony Rouchon, Don Thompson, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Willie George Lee, James Little, Terry Louque, Larry Thomas, Tamiara Wade

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Babin.
2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items:
  - R. J. Saucier: Explained to the Commission the need to readdress some flood control projects discussed in the past, primarily low impact dry-reservoirs along the Amite River.
  - John Barton: Requested that the Commission consider changes he proposes to the Act of Sale – Tract 39. The Commission indicated that this needs to be sent to LADOTD and USACE.
4. Minutes  
The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to approve the February 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented.
5. Financial Statement Report:
  - Hoover presented to the Board the February 2017 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, second by Rouchon to approve the February 2017 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
6. Report by Executive Director:
  - Discussed H&H Modeling for the basin, DOTD has selected a consultant to undertake this study and expects to have the model finished and calibrated within 18 months. The modeling capability will allow us to better assess projects, its impacts and benefits. The model will become an integral part of the Floodplain Management Process.
  - Status of CRDC Project. DOTD and ARBC are focusing efforts towards the utility relocations needed for the bridges of US Hwy. 61 in anticipation of obtaining federal funds for their construction. We also are acquiring properties in the McHugh Swamp area for right-of-way and environmental mitigation.
  - Acquisition of non-moveable property on Tract 46 – The Board discussed the appraisal cost of \$7,000 to purchase a 40 year old mobile home that is not in condition to be moved. The Board discussed the possible need for another estimate. No action was taken. This item will be on the agenda of the next ARBC Regular Meeting to be held on April 18, 2017.
  - Consider Alternative Access – Tract 46: Discussed alternative access to the hunting lease. It was agreed the best solution would be to include Tracts 42 and 43 in the current hunting lease. The Board unanimously agreed to include Tracts 42 and 43 in the current hunting lease. Bankston will prepare a new lease.
  - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thibeau, second by Hoover to add "Act of Sale – M3-115" to the agenda. The Board approved a motion by Hoover, second by Rouchon to accept the Act of Sale for M3-115 in the amount of \$455,000.
  - Susan Douglas, with DOTD, discussed the status of the utility relocations along US Hwy. 61 at the crossing of the future channel.
7. ARBC Legal Counsel: The governor continues to meet in Washington DC to press our request for money for the CRDC Project. He encouraged the Board to write to the editor, Congressmen and US Senators. He explained that Hazard Mitigation money is not available for this project. This money goes toward repairs throughout the whole state of Louisiana.
8. Old Business: None
9. New Business:
10. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Carter to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

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/s/ Ben Babin

Ben Babin, ARBC President

Date: April 18, 2017

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/s/ Toni B. Guitrau

Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary